

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/518,766

Examiner

Jeffrey A. Smith

Applicant(s)

POSTELNIK ET AL.

Art Unit

3625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Appeal Brief & Examiner's Amendment of 1/5/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1 and 4-29.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

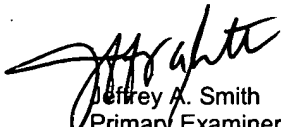
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☒ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 7/10/00, 2/17/05, 5/16/05, 8/22/05
- ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
- ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
- ☐ Other _____.


Jeffrey A. Smith
Primary Examiner
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EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Kent B. Chambers on January 5, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Claims

The following claims have been amended as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A transaction processing method for utilizing an order request servicing system for routing order requests to multiple order request management systems ("ORMSs") of fulfillment partners and integrating respective ORMS data from ORMSs of each fulfillment partner, the method for utilizing the order request servicing system comprising:

receiving with the order request servicing system an order request from a client system;

processing, by the order request servicing system, the received order request into multiple processed order requests;

selecting, by the order request servicing system, fulfillment partners for each of the processed order requests;

for each of the processed order requests, transmitting the processed order request to the ORMS of the selected fulfillment partner;
receiving from each of the ORMSs of the selected fulfillment partners ORMS data associated with the processed order request transmitted to the ORMS of the fulfillment partners; and
integrating the received ORMS data from the ORMSs of the fulfillment partners.

14. (Currently Amended) An order servicing organization system for routing order requests to multiple order request management systems ("ORMSs") of fulfillment partners and integrating respective ORMS data from ORMSs of each fulfillment partner, the order servicing organization system comprising:

a first order request servicing system having an interface to receive an order request from a client system, having a memory ~~to store~~ storing business relationship information relating a client and the fulfillment partners, and having a processing engine to:
process the order request into multiple processed order requests;
select fulfillment partners for each of the processed order requests using the business relationship information;
for each of the processed order requests, transmit the processed order request to the ORMS of the selected fulfillment partner;
receive from each of the ORMSs of the selected fulfillment partners ORMS data associated with the processed order request transmitted to the ORMS of the fulfillment partners; and
integrate the received ORMS data from the ORMSs of the fulfillment partners.

20. (Currently Amended) A transaction processing system having an order request servicing system for routing order requests to multiple order request management systems ("ORMSs") of fulfillment partners and integrating respective ORMS data from

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ORMSs of each fulfillment partner, the ~~transaction processing~~ order request servicing system comprising:

- means for receiving an order request from a client system;
- means for processing the order request into multiple processed order requests;
- means for selecting fulfillment partners for each of the processed order requests;
- means for transmitting the processed order request to the ORMS of the selected fulfillment partner;
- means for receiving from each of the ORMSs of the selected fulfillment partners ORMS data associated with the processed order request transmitted to the ORMS of the fulfillment partners; and
- means for integrating the received ORMS data from the ORMSs of the fulfillment partners.

21. (Currently Amended) A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method for utilizing an order request servicing system for routing order requests to multiple order request management systems ("ORMSs") of fulfillment partners and integrating respective ORMS data from ORMSs of each fulfillment partner, the method for utilizing an order request servicing system comprising:

- receiving with the order request servicing system an order request from a client system;
- processing, by the order request servicing system, the order request into multiple processed order requests;
- selecting, by the order request servicing system, fulfillment partners for each of the processed order requests;
- for each of the processed order requests, transmitting the processed order request to the ORMS of the selected fulfillment partner;
- receiving from each of the ORMSs of the selected fulfillment partners ORMS data associated with the processed order request transmitted to the ORMS of the fulfillment partners; and

integrating the received ORMS data from the ORMSs of the fulfillment partners.

22. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a processor;

a memory coupled to the processor, the memory storing code that is executable by the

processor for implementing an order request servicing system for routing order requests to multiple order request management systems ("ORMSs") of fulfillment partners and integrating respective ORMS data from ORMSs of each fulfillment partner, wherein the code implementing the order request servicing system includes ~~components~~ code to:

receive an order request from a client system in electronic communication with the order request servicing system;

process the received order request into multiple processed order requests;

select fulfillment partners for each of the processed order requests;

for each of the processed order requests, transmit the processed order request to the ORMS of the selected fulfillment partner;

receive from each of the ORMSs of the selected fulfillment partners

ORMS data associated with the processed order request

transmitted to the ORMS of the fulfillment partners; and

integrate the received ORMS data from the ORMSs of the fulfillment partners.

26. (Currently Amended) The transaction processing system of claim 20, wherein the order request servicing system further ~~comprising~~ comprises:

means for retrieving business relationship rules between a client and fulfillment partners;

means for retrieving business relationship data applicable to the business relationship rules; and

for each processed order request, means for selecting fulfillment partners in

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accordance with the business relationship rules and business relationship data.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claim 1

The prior art of record neither anticipates nor fairly and reasonably teaches a transaction processing method for utilizing an order request servicing system for routing order requests to multiple order request management systems (ORMS) of fulfillment partners and integrating respective ORMS data from ORMSs of each fulfillment partner comprising, inter alia, the steps of selecting by, the order request servicing system, fulfillment partners for each of the processed order requests; and integrating the received ORMS data from the ORMSs of the fulfillment partners.

The most remarkable prior art is to Hennig et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,587,827 B1) and Bright et al. (US 2002/0013831 A1).

Although Hennig et al discloses a method and system for processing customer-generated orders to multiple suppliers, a customer, rather than an order request servicing system, selects a preferred supplier for delivering a particular product. Moreover, Hennig et al fails to disclose a step of integrating the received ORMS data from the ORMSs of the fulfillment partners. None of the additional prior art of record, including Bright et al remedies the deficiencies found in Hennig et al.

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Regarding claims 14, 20, 21, and 22

Claims 14, 20, 21, and 22 are allowable for reasons similar to those advanced for claim 1.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

EXAMINER'S COMMENT

Drawings

The proposed drawing corrections received on November 25, 2002 are approved.

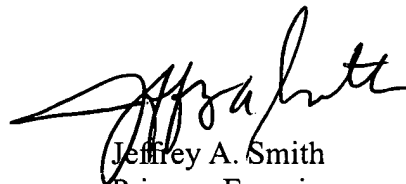
New corrected drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required. Applicant is advised to employ the services of a competent patent draftsman outside the Office, as the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office no longer prepares new drawings. The corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The requirement for corrected drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jeffrey A. Smith whose telephone number is (571) 272-6763. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 6:30am-6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wynn Coggins can be reached on (571) 272-7159. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Jeffrey A. Smith
Primary Examiner
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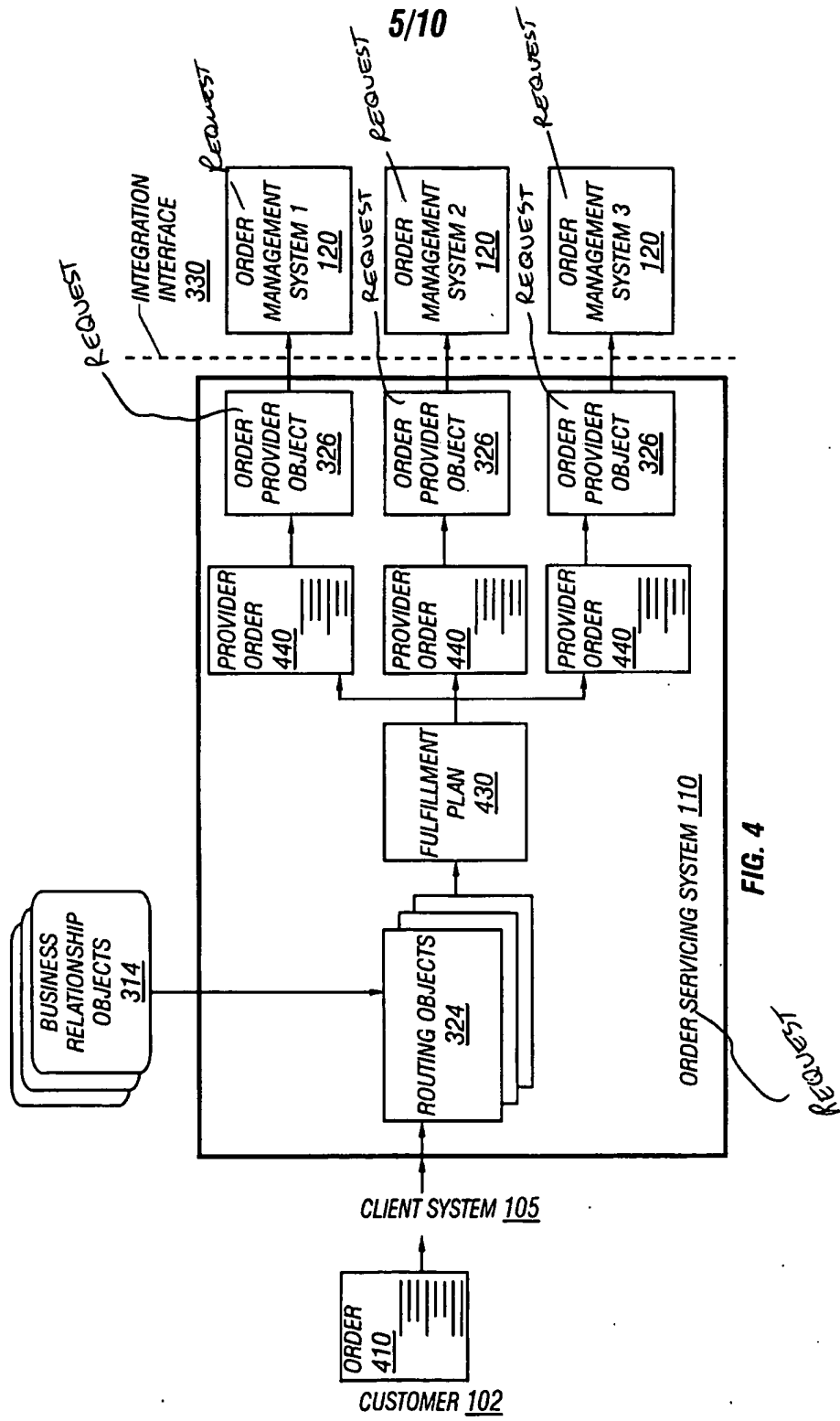
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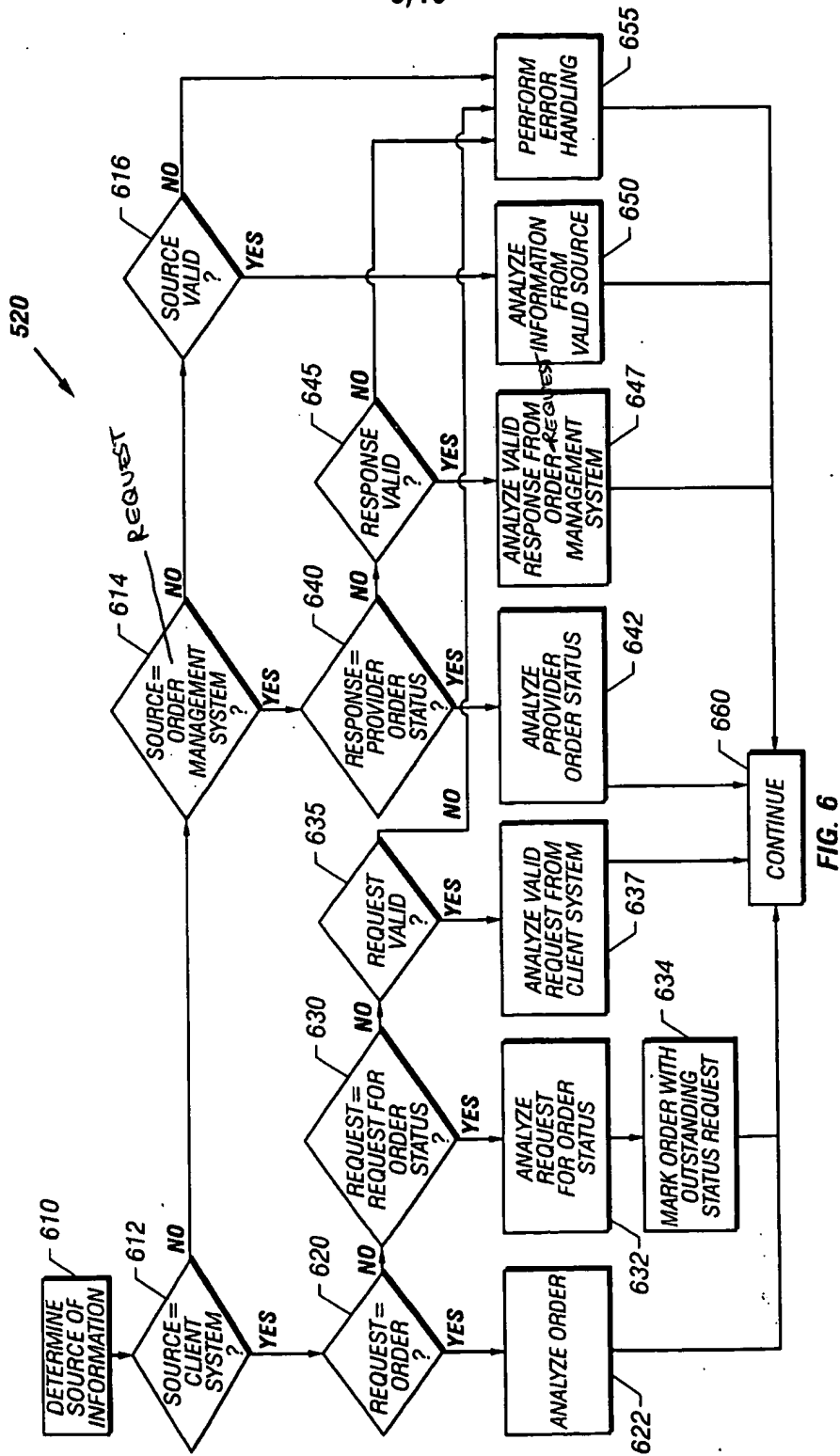
SUBMISSION OF RED-LINED DRAWINGS - (3 PAGES)

entry of all approved
Jr 1/4/06



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